



# Saint Gerard Catholic Church

809 Orange Avenue NW Roanoke, Virginia 24016 ~ Office: (540) 343-7744 Fax: (540) 343-3599



## VISION STATEMENT ~ VISIÓN DE LA PARROQUIA

*A model Christian parish where each individual contributes unique gifts and talents to create a prayerful, caring and inclusive community.*

*Una parroquia Cristiana modelo, en la cual cada individuo contribuye sus dones y talentos para crear una comunidad de oración, amor e inclusión.*

**Rev. Fr. René Castillo, Pastor**  
[pastor@stgerard.roacoxmail.com](mailto:pastor@stgerard.roacoxmail.com)

**Rev. Mr. Lou Maurelli**  
Volunteer Deacon

**Maria Morales, Coordinator Religious Education**  
[reled@stgerard.roacoxmail.com](mailto:reled@stgerard.roacoxmail.com)

**Pat Connor, Secretary – Bookkeeper**  
[mail@stgerard.roacoxmail.com](mailto:mail@stgerard.roacoxmail.com)

### Liturgy Schedule / Horario de Liturgia:

Sunday/Domingo:	(English)	9:30am
	(Español)	12:15pm
	(English)	5:00pm
Monday/Lunes		8:30am
Wednesday-Friday/Miércoles-Viernes		8:30am

**Office Hours: Mon. – Fri. 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.**

### Parish Leadership / Líderes de Parroquia

Pastoral Council.....	Robert Barnwell, Chair	(C) 793-5655
Finance Council.....	Erin Mardian, Chair	(H) 989-9174
Liturgy Committee.....	Gayle Danielsen	(H) 562-0054
Christian Formation .....	Maria Morales, Staff	(W) 343-7744
Social Committee.....	Helene Seymour, Chair	(H) 345-3315
Stewardship Committee.....	Freddie Monk, Chair	(H) 366-4337
Justice and Peace Committee.....	Mignon Chubb-Hale, Chair	(H) 563-4813
Roanoke Catholic School, Parish Representative.....	Monique Worrell	(H) 343-0253
Hispanic Community/Comunidad Hispana.....	Carmen Muñoz	(H) 366-2464
Pastoral Care.....	Charles Anderson	(H) 982-8614
Knights of Columbus – Fr. Maurice McDonald Council #13046.....	Robert Barnwell, Grand Knight	(C) 793-5655

### Regional Services / Servicios Regionales

Roanoke Catholic School:	982-3532	St. Francis House:	345-9090
Madonna House:	343-8464	Catholic Historical Society:	982-0152
Regional Tribunal Contact:	772-2580	Knights of Columbus:	774-8296
Catholic Charities:	344-5107	St. Andrew's Cemetery:	342-9180
Refugee and Immigration Service:	342-7561	Our Lady of the Valley:	345-5111
Roanoke Area Ministries:	345-8850	Pregnancy Counseling – Catholic Charities:	344-2749

**Sacrament of Baptism** is generally celebrated on Sunday once a month, except during Lent. Parents should contact Maria Morales at least one month prior to the baptism to arrange an appointment for preparation and fill out a form. Baptism Registration forms are available by calling the office.

**Sacrament of Reconciliation** is celebrated by appointment. Please call during office hours.

**First Reconciliation and First Communion, Sacrament of Confirmation** please contact the Minister of Religious Education for more information.

**Sacrament of Marriage** requires at least 6 months of preparation before the Marriage. Contact Fr. René Castillo, through the parish office, to start the process.

**Pastoral Care:** please contact the parish office if you are aware a parishioner is sick and desires to receive the Eucharist, Anointing of the sick or a visit from the pastor.

**Parish Registration forms are available through the office.**

**Sacramento del Bautismo** generalmente se celebra en domingo una vez al mes, excepto durante la Cuaresma. Los padres deben ponerse en contacto con Maria Morales un mes antes para registrarse en las charlas prebautismal y para solicitar la forma de Registro al Bautismo.

**Sacramento de Reconciliación** es celebrado haciendo cita. Por favor llame a la oficina.

#### Primera Reconciliación y Primera Comunión

**Sacramento de Confirmación** por favor ponerse en contacto con Maria (Coordinadora de Educación Religiosa).

**Sacramento de Matrimonio** requiere por lo menos 6 meses de notificación por avanzado antes de que se fije la fecha de matrimonio. Preparación es requerida. Hablar con María Morales para mayor información.

**Cuidado Pastoral:** por favor contactar la oficina parroquial si usted sabe de alguien que está enfermo y desea recibir la Eucaristía, Unción de los enfermos o una visita del Padre.

**Formas para Registro de Iglesia están disponibles en la oficina.**

## Ministers/Ministros for Dec. 7, 2008

### 9:30am Mass

Lectors: Mirenda Gwin, Brian Schippers.  
Holy Communion: Phyllis Mardian, Theresa Champagne,  
Ministers: Joe Fostek, Karen Patton,  
Cecilia Alami.  
Altar Servers: Will Miller, Jack Pilgreen.  
Ushers: Beatrice M. Johnson, James Allen,  
Charles Anderson.

### Misa de 12:15pm

Lectores: Miguel Chavez, Karla Benavidez.  
Peticiones: Gabriel Morales.  
Monaguillos: List not available.  
Ministros de la  
Sagrada Comunion: Lidia y Gabriel Frias,  
Maria y Germán Morales.

### Readings for this week/Lecturas para esta semana:

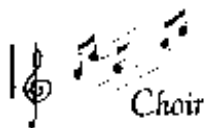
**M** – Is 2:1-5; Ps 122:1-9; Mt 8:5-11.  
**T** – Is 11:1-10; Ps 72:7-8,12-13,17; Lk/Lc 10:21-24.  
**W** – 1 Cor/1 Co 9:16-19,22-23; Ps 23:1-6; Mk/Mr 16:15-20.  
**T** – Is 26:1-6; Ps 118:1,8-9,19-21,25-27a; Mt 7:21,24-27.  
**F** – Is 29:17-24; Ps 27:1,4,13-14; Mt 9:27-31.  
**S** – Is 30:19-21,23-26; Ps 147:1-6; Mt 9:35-10:1,5a,6-8.  
**Readings for Sunday/Lecturas para el domingo, Dec. 7:**  
Is 40:1-5,9-11; Ps 85:9-14; 2 Pt/2 Pe 3:8-14, Mk/Mr 1:1-8.

### Meetings & Events/Reuniones y Actividades:

Wed. Dec. 3 7:00pm Knights of Columbus  
Fri. Dec. 5 8:30am Holy Hour with Prayer Service  
& Benediction  
7:00pm Comité Hispano  
Sat. Dec. 6 1:00pm Children's Choir Rehearsal

### **Mass Intentions for the Week Misa ofrecida esta Semana**

<b>Sun. Nov. 30</b>	9:30am Mass	<b>Msgr. Thomas Miller</b>
	12:15pm Mass	<b>Pro Populo</b>
	5:00pm Mass	<b>Joey Carnera †</b>
<b>Mon. Dec. 1</b>	8:30am Mass	<b>Agustín Rosado †</b>
<b>Wed. Dec. 3</b>	8:30am Mass	<b>Agustín Rosado †</b>
<b>Thurs. Dec. 4</b>	8:30am Mass	<b>Jane S. Glenn †</b>



The **St. Gerard Gospel Choir** will be presenting concerts on the following dates:

- Monday, Dec. 1<sup>st</sup> at V.A. Hospital at 6:45 p.m.
- Wednesday, Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup> at Rescue Mission at 7:30 p.m.
- Sunday, Dec. 7<sup>th</sup> at Tanglewood Mall near Penney's at 2:00 p.m.

Each of the programs will last about 45 minutes.



**PLEASE PRAY  
FOR:  
POR FAVOR OREN  
POR:**

**Those who are sick/Aquellos enfermos:** Paul Noblett, Bill DeBerry, Wayne Attaway, Fr. Mike Hanna, Fr. Donald Scales, OSB, Nancy Thomas, Msgr. Tom Miller, Fr. Dan Brady, Fr. Robert Krenik, Spec Mike Joslin, Steve Seymour, Jean-Bosco Ntunzwenimana, Sister Maria Labré, Camille Willis, Vivian Pierce, Gwendolyn Dudley, Amy Lovelace, William Shorter, Sam Graziano, Joan Abruzzo, Maria Eden Hernández, Natalia Baez, Sherry McCoy, Dennis Deacon, Ernestine DeBerry, Ofelia Castellon, Tandy Theakston, Cliff Lyons, Christine Amos, Elva Cole, Olivia Shroades, Marisol Escobar, David Stafford, Concepción Ortiz, Anita Sparta, Eileen Spencer, Joseph St.Clair, Rita Welcher, Marie Quirk, Billie H. Davis, Emma Dow, and Teresa Crutchfield.

**For seminarians of our diocese/Por nuestros seminaristas:** David Stanfill, Sr., Eric Ayers, Jonathan Goertz, Carlos Lerma, Brian Capuano, John David Ramsey, David Cupps, Joe Goldsmith, Chris Hess, Cole Kracke, Kevin McArdle, Sean Prince, Edgar Madarang, Gino Rossi, and Scott Sartini.

**For those in the military who are deployed:** Major Herbert Jones, Jr., SFC. Todd Crutchfield, José Antonio Muñoz, DéRondo Willis, and Daniel H. Smith.

### **QUESTION OF THE WEEK PREGUNTA DE LA SEMANA**

Gospel/Evangelio: Mk/Mr 13:33-37

**Theme:** Active waiting.  
**Tema:** La espera activa.

#### **For Adults/Para Adultos**

What is one thing that you can do this week to help you remember that Jesus is coming?

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Menciona una cosa que puedes hacer esta semana que te ayude a recordar que Jesús está en camino.

#### **For Children/Para Niños**

What special things do you do to get ready for a visitor at your house? What things can you do like that to get ready for Jesus?

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¿Qué cosas especiales haces para prepararte para recibir una visita? ¿Qué cosas puedes hacer de esa manera para prepararte para recibir a Jesús?

## November 30, 2008 – First Sunday of Advent 30 de Noviembre de 2008 – I Domingo de Adviento



**STAY AWAKE:** “The Lord is coming, but you know not the day or the hour.” This season makes us all aware of time’s movement and our place in its fragile duration. Now is the time to sort things out, look around and get ready, for at the Lord’s presence the mountains

melt. Advent means: He’s coming soon! Heads up! Keep your own eyes open. Don’t expect someone else to alert you. Be ready!

*Text: Philip J. Sandstrom, STD © 1999, OCP. All rights reserved. First Sunday of Advent, Year B. Illustration © 1997 S. Erspamer.*

**ESTÉN DESPIERTOS:** Escuchamos una advertencia en el Evangelio de hoy: estén preparados y vigilantes, “pues no saben a qué hora va a regresar el dueño de la casa”. Con el paso de los años nos damos cuenta de nuestra fragilidad. Ahora es tiempo de escoger, mirar a nuestro alrededor y prepararnos, porque los cerros se derriten ante la presencia del Señor. Adviento significa: ¡Él ya viene! ¡Arriba! Estén despiertos. No esperen a que otros vengan a decirles que estén alerta. ¡Estén listos!

*Texto: Philip J. Sandstrom, STD © 1999, OCP. Derechos reservados.*

### ANGEL TREE

This year, our Angel Tree will be for our own parishioners in need of our Christmas help. If you are a parishioner or know of a parishioner who could use some help, please contact Fr. Rene with the names, sizes, and sexes of the family members i.e. Father size small, Mother size medium, daughter 5 yrs. old size 5, etc. These names will be kept strictly confidential. The names must be turned into the office by November 30. (That’s today!)



### EL ARBOL DE ANGELES

Este año, nuestro Arbol de Angelitos será para nuestros propios feligreses que estan necesitados de ayuda esta Navidad. Si usted es un feligrés o conoce de un feligrés que necesita ayuda, por favor hable con el padre René y le pasa por escrito la información: nombres, tallas y sexo de los miembros; por ejemplo: padre talla grande, madre talla mediana, hija 5 años talla 5, etc. Estos nombres serán mantenidos en estricta confidencialidad. Los nombres deben ser entregados HOY 30 de noviembre.

### CATHOLIC CAMPAIGN FOR HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

**Thank you!** The national and diocesan offices of the Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD) wish to thank you for your generosity in this year’s Collection. Please continue to pray for our sisters and brothers living below the poverty line right here in the United States and for the community groups funded by CCHD that work to end the cycle of poverty. Please visit [www.usccb.org/cchd](http://www.usccb.org/cchd) to learn more and to see how your support is truly making a difference.

### LA CAMPAÑA CATÓLICA PARA EL DESARROLLO HUMANO

**¡Muchas gracias!** Las oficinas nacionales y diocesanas de la Campaña Católica para el Desarrollo Humano (CCHD, por sus siglas en inglés) desean expresarle su agradecimiento por su generosidad en la Colecta de este año. Le exhortamos a seguir orando por nuestros hermanos y hermanas que viven por debajo de la línea de pobreza aquí mismo en Estados Unidos, y por los grupos comunales financiados por la CCHD que trabajan para acabar con el ciclo de la pobreza. Visite [www.usccb.org/cchd](http://www.usccb.org/cchd) para conocer más y ver cómo su apoyo está verdaderamente marcando la diferencia.

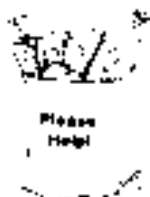
#### OUR SACRIFICIAL GIVING/NUESTRA CONTRIBUCION:

Collection/Colecta (11/23/08):	\$ 3,221.23
Budget/Presupuesto = \$4,060.00 (-\$838.77)	
Catholic Campaign – Human Development	\$ 581.17
Capital Improvement Collection	\$ 175.00

#### Receipts & Expenditures/Recibos y Gastos

Receipts/Recibos (7/1/08-11/25/08)	\$ 84,889.33
Expenses/Gastos (7/1/08-11/25/08)	<u>86,550.88</u>
Difference/Diferencia	(\$ <u>1,661.55</u> )

**Thank you for your generous support  
Gracias por su generosidad**



**Saint Francis House** needs **pudding snacks or gel cups**. Thank you for your generosity.

**La Casa de San Francisco** necesita **vasitos de pudin o gelatina**. Muchas gracias por su generosidad.

# Life Long Christian Formation - Formación Cristiana de por Vida

November 30, 2008

**RCIA.** If you or someone you know is interested in finding out more about being a Catholic, please contact Deacon Lou Maurelli for more information.

**RICA.** SI USTED O ALGUIEN QUE USTED CONOCE NECESITA EL BAUTISMO, LA PRIMERA COMUNION, O LA CONFIRMACION? Por favor déjele saber a María ó Germán Morales.

## **Watch!**

**After Church Take 30 (seconds):** Quietly, think of one kind deed you will do for another family member today to begin this Advent season. **Chat:** What did we see or hear today at Mass that tells us that our parish community is trying to help us this Advent season to “watch” and “be alert” for the Lord? What can we do in our family this week to help each other stay alert? Might we commit to a special prayer at home around a wreath each day of Advent? What materials do we need to gather today to make this happen? **Pray:** (Repeat each phrase after the leader.) “Show us your love, Lord.” “And grant us your salvation.” “Bless us this first week of Advent.”

## **For next week ... Prepare!**

**Before Church:** **Gospel Glimpse** from Mark 1:2-3 “As it is written in Isaiah the prophet: ‘Behold, I am sending my messenger ahead of you; / he will prepare your way. / A voice of one crying out in the desert: / “Prepare the way of the Lord, / make straight his paths.”’” **Key Idea:** “Preparing the way of the Lord” and “making straight his paths” means removing the obstacles (the hills and valleys) that keep us from hearing what Jesus is asking of us. God often puts messengers (special people) in our lives who help us recognize Jesus and hear God’s voice. John the Baptist was such a messenger for the people of Jesus’ time. **Chat:** Who are some of the special people we see at Mass each week who are messengers, put there to “prepare the way” and help us to see Jesus at work in our lives? Who are these special people in our extended family? At our school? At our workplace?

**CATECHIST AND ADULT FORMATION SESSIONS are on the last Sunday of the month (next one is TODAY!) from 10:45am-12:00pm.** The sessions will cover a book by James Philipps “Understanding St. Paul” from the series of Jump Starts for catechists. In this book the author highlights St. Paul unceasing efforts to spread Christ’s message, a job each one of us baptized Catholics have. James Philipps particularly shares insights about what St. Paul’s teachings mean for us today. We have a small number of this book. If you would like to participate in the sessions, please call Maria Morales to borrow one in preparation for that day. This is the year of Saint Paul; let us learn a little more about this apostle of Christ.

**We also need more catechists, so come to one of these sessions to meet some of the people who are echoing the faith.**



## **BAPTISM**

**Next available date:** TBA.

**Next Preparation class:** TBA. The families should be members already and should fill out a baptism registration form at least a month before the preparation.

## **BAUTISMO**

**Próxima fecha disponible:** Miércoles 31 de diciembre 10am.

**Próxima charla prebaptismal:** Será anunciada. Las familias interesadas deben estar **ya inscritas en la parroquia** y deben llenar la forma de inscripción al bautismo. **NO deben traer los niños a la platica, para así todos poderse concentrar.**

**¡Alerta!** Después de la iglesia **Tomar 30 (segundos):** En silencio, piensen en una buena obra que harán por otro familiar hoy día, para empezar este tiempo de Adviento. **Charlar:** ¿Qué vimos o escuchamos hoy día en la misa que nos dice que nuestra comunidad parroquial está tratando de ayudarnos en este tiempo de Adviento a “velar” y “estar alertas” para el Señor? ¿Qué podemos hacer en nuestra familia esta semana para ayudarnos mutuamente a permanecer alertas? ¿Podríamos comprometernos a una oración especial en casa, alrededor de una corona, cada día de Adviento? ¿Qué materials debemos reunir hoy para hacer que esto suceda? **Orar:** (Repetir cada frase después del líder.) “Muéstranos, Señor, tu misericordia”. “Y danos tu salvación”. Bendícenos esta primera semana de Adviento”.

**Para la próxima semana ... ¡Prepárense! Antes de la iglesia Mirada al Evangelio de Marcos 1:2-3 “En el libro del profeta Isaías está escrito: ‘He aquí que yo envío a mi mensajero delante de ti, / a preparar tu camino. / Voz del que clama en el desierto: / “Preparen el camino del Señor, / enderecen sus senderos”’.”** **Idea clave:** “Preparar el camino del Señor” y “enderezar sus senderos” significa remover los obstáculos (las colinas y los valles) que nos impiden escuchar lo que Jesús nos está pidiendo. Dios suele poner mensajeros (gente especial) en nuestras vidas, que nos ayudan a reconocer a Jesús y escuchar la voz de Dios. Juan el Bautista fue tal mensajero para la gente en la época de Jesús. **Charlar:** ¿Quiénes son algunas de las personas especiales que vemos en misa cada semana que son mensajeros, puestos allí para “preparar el camino” y ayudarnos a ver a Jesús en acción en nuestras vidas? ¿Quiénes son estas personas especiales entre nuestros parientes? ¿En nuestra escuela? ¿En nuestro lugar de trabajo?

**FORMACION DE ADULTOS Y SESIONES PARA FORMACION DE CATEQUISTAS es el último Domingo de cada mes (la próxima será el domingo 25 de enero) de 10:45am-12:00pm.** Recuerden que el último domingo de cada mes es para la formación de catechistas y para la formación de los adultos (los padres de familia). Si usted es catequista debe asistir a estas sesiones, **Si su hijo o hija está en el Año 1 o 2 de Primera Comunión o Confirmación, su asistencia es requerida.**



**Knights of Columbus/Caballeros de Colón**  
**Fr. Maurice McDonald Council 13046**

We meet the first Wed. of the month at 7 PM in the commons. We encourage all of our Catholic men to consider joining the Knights of Columbus, to help us move forward with service to the church and our Catholic community.

Los caballeros se reúnen el primer miércoles de cada mes a las 7pm en el commons. Animamos a todos los hombres católicos a considerar unirse a los Caballeros de Colón, a ayudarnos avanzar con servicio a la iglesia y a nuestra comunidad católica.

**Christmas Cards**

Support the vocations program of the diocese and the Knights of Columbus message of "Keeping Christ in Christmas" by purchasing Christmas cards.

**Tarjetas de Navidad**

Apoyen a los Caballeros de Colón en su mensaje de "mantener a Cristo en Navidad" con su compra de tarjetas de Navidad.



*Fiesta de Nuestra Señora de  
Guadalupe  
Patrona de todas las Américas*

*Feast Of Our Lady of  
Guadalupe  
Patroness of all the Americas.*

**Jueves, 11 de diciembre** – 10:00 PM-Iglesia de San Gerardo – Serenata a la Virgen

**Viernes, 12 de diciembre** – 6:00 PM-Iglesia San Gerardo –Rosario, Procesión, Misa (a las 8:30am en inglés y 7pm en español), Historias, Música, Antojitos, Danzas Folklórica.

*(Durante la semana puede venir a rezarle a la Virgen entre 9am-2pm tocando por el lado de las oficinas.)*

**Thursday, December 11** – 10:00 PM-St. Gerard Church – Songs and Prayers to the Virgin.

**Friday, December 12** – 6:00 PM-St. Gerard Church –Rosario, Procession, Mass (8:30am in English & 7pm mostly in Spanish), Songs, Stories about the apparitions, Music, Hors d'oeuvre, Folkloric dances.

**CHRISTMAS OF HOPE TOY DRIVE:** Faithworks is collecting new, unwrapped toys for children who have lost parents to violent crime. There is a box in the commons for the donations. They will be collecting toys through this coming **Tuesday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>**.

**VALLEY WIDE MISSION –“SURPRISED BY CHRIST”**

How can we keep the Spirit alive between Christmas and Lent?? You can by planning to attend the Valley Wide Mission, January 17 – 21, 2009. Watch the bulletin for updated information.

**OUTSIDE OUR PARISH/  
FUERA DE LA PARROQUIA**

**PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY** will meet at Our Lady of Nazareth on Monday December 1 at 1:30 pm in the library. All are welcome and invited. Would you like to learn how to knit or crochet? Come and we will teach you.

**INTERFAITH DIALOGUE:** As Catholic Christians we are called to foster dialogue between religions. In his words on Oct. 30, 2008, Pope Benedict XVI said, "In our troubled world, so frequently marked by poverty, violence and exploitation, dialogue between cultures and religions must more and more be seen as a sacred duty incumbent upon all those who are committed to building a world worthy of human life." All interested in this ministry of Interfaith Dialogue may contact John & Katie Zawacki at [tchpax@wildblue.net](mailto:tchpax@wildblue.net). There will be an organizational meeting at OLN on Dec. 2<sup>nd</sup> at 7:00 pm. Call 540-890-0531 or email if you can attend.

**FAIR TRADE SALE** at Our Lady of Nazareth Parish on Saturday, December 6 from 9:00am until 3:00pm and after all masses on Saturday night and Sunday. This is a good opportunity to finish up the Christmas shopping and help workers in developing countries continue to receive a fair wage working in just and healthy environments.

**MADONNA HOUSE:** Next masses on Sat. Dec. 6 & Sat. Jan. 5 at 8:30 a.m. Open Dec. 25 to 27, from Noon to 4 p.m. Closed Dec. 28-31. On Jan. 1 join us for a Festive Open House from Noon to 4 p.m. in honor of the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God. Closed Jan. 2-5. Phone 540-343-8464; Email [www.madonnahouse.org](http://www.madonnahouse.org). 828 Campbell Ave. SW Roanoke, VA 24016. Open daily except on Mondays.

**THE NATIONAL NIGHT OF PRAYER FOR LIFE** is a pro-life prayer service consisting of exposition and adoration to the Blessed Sacrament, 20 decades of the Rosary, prayer to St. Michael, meditation and hymns, which takes place each year beginning on December 8, the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, at 9 PM, and rolling into Dec. 9, the feast of St. Juan Diego, until 1 AM. It was on this feast that Our Lady of Guadalupe, patroness of the Americas, and the unborn, first appeared to St. Juan Diego in Mexico. More than 700 parishes across the United States join in prayer on the night that bridges these two feasts to honor Mary, and to pray for the sanctity of all human life. Please come to Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church in Salem this year to join our nation with one voice in prayer for the gift of Life.